

MINUTES
FORT MYERS BEACH
MARINE RESOURCES TASK FORCE
Town Hall – Council Chambers
2523 Estero Boulevard
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

Wednesday, September 10, 2014

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Chair Veach. Members present: Cheryl Clark, Cristina Denegre, Glen Thompson, Bill Veach, and Keri Weeg.
Excused: Tree Andre and Peter Pine.
Staff present: Keith Laakkonen

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. INVOCATION

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of July 9, 2014

MOTION: Ms. Weeg moved to approve the minutes; second by Ms. Clark.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Nadine Degenova expressed her concern regarding water quality and thanked MRTF for addressing the situation.

Ceel Spuhler thanked Mr. Laakkonen for his Sandpaper article regarding canals.

John Heim discussed water quality issues in the canals.

VI. NEW ITEMS

Mr. Laakkonen introduced new member, Glen Thompson. Mr. Thompson shared his background with members and stated his interests included red tide research.

Mr. Laakkonen revealed that Peter Pine did not elect to continue membership with MRTF.

VII. CURRENT ITEMS

A. Beachscape Program (Veach)

Mr. Laakkonen remarked that he was in the process of obtaining quotes for plants and installation.

Mr. Veach indicated a property owner on Connecticut was interested in planting. Mr. Veach stated that he would work with Mr. Laakkonen to identify beach accesses. Mr.

Laakkonen indicated that he would check with CELCAB regarding beach accesses.

B. Adopt a Beach (Andre)

Mr. Laakkonen displayed T-shirts for distribution.

C. Community Outreach/MRTF Event (Weeg)

Ms. Weeg indicated she would contact Eve Haverfield concerning the event at the end of turtle season.

D. Newspaper Articles (Denegre/Veach)

Chair Veach submitted an article on turtles. He stated that he planned future articles on loggerheads and birds. Chair Veach questioned Mr. Laakkonen about utilizing the Town's website for material.

E. FAQs (Weeg)

In progress.

F. Informational Sticker for Rental Boats (Clark)

Ms. Clark reported that Fish Tales Marina was interested in using the sticker. Mr. Thompson questioned the procedure for renting boats.

MOTION: Ms. Weeg moved to authorize Mr. Laakkonen to obtain quotes; second by Chair Veach.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

G. QR Codes (TBD)

MOTION: Chair Veach moved to remove QR Codes from the agenda; second by Ms. Weeg.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

H. Brochure Distribution

Mr. Laakkonen indicated more brochures would be ordered under the new budget.

I. Canals

Mr. Laakkonen discussed the cost to dredge canals and described the situation at Laguna Shores where the property owners funded the dredging by creating a special taxing district. He stated that some sea walls had to be replaced. Discussion was held regarding MRTF's role in the canal issue. Mr. Laakkonen suggested that MRTF bring the canal issue to Council for guidance. Ms. Weeg offered to present to Council.

MOTION: Chair Veach moved to authorize Ms. Weeg to speak on behalf of MRTF about
MRTF 20140910

canals at the next Town Council meeting; second by Mr. Thompson.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

J. Florida Green Building Association

On hold.

VIII. MEMBER ITEMS AND REPORTS

Ms. Denegre indicated that she was not sure she would continue membership with MRTF.

Mr. Thompson indicated that he would be the point person for canals.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Heimlich described his experience with dredging an inlet in the back bay 10 years ago. He stated the water quality in the back bay was bad and canals needed to be dredged. Mr. Heimlich compared the canals to Lake Trafford. He suggested sending a water sample to an expert for testing.

Parilla

Dave Perla distributed information regarding a 2001 canal study and suggested the Town follow up. He discussed costs per lot for dredging and felt the Town should investigate grants.

John Heim questioned where water quality was located within the budget. Mr. Laakkonen recommended that he speak with Finance Director Wicks. Mr. Heim discussed water quality issues and stressed education.

X. SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Remove QR Codes.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ms. Weeg moved to adjourn.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Adopted 10/2/14 with/without changes. Motion by Glen Thompson
(DATE)

Vote: 5-0 Signature: Keri Weeg

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